

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

VIRGINIA SARDIS,

Plaintiff,

-v-

GATEWAY SERVICES INC.
& RICHARD D. DUHAIME,

Defendants.

23 Civ. 8590 (PAE)

ORDER

PAUL A. ENGELMAYER, District Judge:

On November 9, 2023, the Court held an initial conference, which was transcribed by a court reporter. The Court determined that it has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as counsel's account of plaintiff's claimed injuries supports defendants' claim in removing that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. At the conference, the Court held that, although defendants untimely removed this case, plaintiff had waived the right to move for remand by not timely doing so. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1447. The Court further confirmed that the parties have consented to conducting all further proceedings before a Magistrate Judge pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(c); a separate order indicating their consent will be filed on the docket. This Court so-orders and will file the joint Civil Case Management Plan, although the dates therein are subject to review and modification by Magistrate Judge Sarah L. Cave, who will also set the date for the next case management conference.

SO ORDERED.



PAUL A. ENGELMAYER
United States District Judge

Dated: November 9, 2023
New York, New York

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
for the
Southern District of New York

Virginia Sardis)	
<i>Plaintiff</i>)	
v.)	Civil Action No. 23cv8590
Gateway Services Inc. & Richard D. Duhaime)	
<i>Defendant</i>)	

NOTICE, CONSENT, AND REFERENCE OF A CIVIL ACTION TO A MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Notice of a magistrate judge's availability. A United States magistrate judge of this court is available to conduct all proceedings in this civil action (including a jury or nonjury trial) and to order the entry of a final judgment. The judgment may then be appealed directly to the United States court of appeals like any other judgment of this court. A magistrate judge may exercise this authority only if all parties voluntarily consent.

You may consent to have your case referred to a magistrate judge, or you may withhold your consent without adverse substantive consequences. The name of any party withholding consent will not be revealed to any judge who may otherwise be involved with your case.

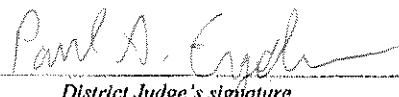
Consent to a magistrate judge's authority. The following parties consent to have a United States magistrate judge conduct all proceedings in this case including trial, the entry of final judgment, and all post-trial proceedings.

<i>Printed names of parties and attorneys</i>	<i>Signatures of parties or attorneys</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Virginia Sardis		11-9-23
Gateway Services, Inc. & Richard Duhaime		11-9-23

Reference Order

IT IS ORDERED: This case is referred to a United States magistrate judge to conduct all proceedings and order the entry of a final judgment in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c) and Fed. R. Civ. P. 73.

Date: 11/09/2023


District Judge's signature

Paul A. Engelmayer, U.S. District Judge

Printed name and title

Note: Return this form to the clerk of court only if you are consenting to the exercise of jurisdiction by a United States magistrate judge. Do not return this form to a judge.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Virginia Sardis

Plaintiff(s),

-- Civ. ---- (PAE)

Gateway Services & Richard Duhaime

Defendant(s).

CIVIL CASE
MANAGEMENT PLAN
AND SCHEDULING
ORDER

--X

This Civil Case Management Plan (the “Plan”) is submitted by the parties in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f)(3).

1. All parties consent (do not consent) to conducting all further proceedings before a Magistrate Judge, including motions and trial. 28 U.S.C. § 636(c). [Circle one.] The parties are free to withhold consent without adverse substantive consequences. [If all parties consent, the remaining paragraphs need not be completed.]
 2. This case (is) not to be tried to a jury. [Circle one.]
 3. Amended pleadings may not be filed and additional parties may not be joined except with leave of the Court. Any motion to amend or to join additional parties shall be filed within 30 days from the date of this Order. [Absent exceptional circumstances, thirty (30) days.]
 4. Initial disclosures, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(1), shall be completed no later than 14 days from the date of this Order. [Absent exceptional circumstances, fourteen (14) days.]
 5. All fact discovery shall be completed no later than March 6, 2024. [A period not to exceed 120 days, unless the Court finds that the case presents unique complexities or other exceptional circumstances.]
 6. The parties are to conduct discovery in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Local Rules of the Southern District of New York. The following interim deadlines may be extended by the written consent of all parties without application to the Court, provided that all fact discovery is completed by the date set forth in paragraph 5 above.
 - a. Initial requests for production of documents to be served by December 6, 2023.
 - b. Interrogatories to be served by _____.

- c. Depositions to be completed by _____ April 10, 2024 _____.
- d. Requests to Admit to be served no later than _____ April 10 2024 _____.
7. a. All expert discovery shall be completed no later than _____ April 10, 2024 _____.
 [Absent exceptional circumstances, a date forty-five (45) days from the date in paragraph 5, *i.e.*, the completion of all fact discovery.]
- b. No later than thirty (30) days prior to the date in paragraph 5, *i.e.*, the completion of all fact discovery, the parties shall meet and confer on a schedule for expert disclosures, including reports, production of underlying documents and depositions, provided that (i) expert report(s) of the party with the burden of proof shall be due before those of the opposing party's expert(s); and (ii) all expert discovery shall be completed by the date set forth in paragraph 7(a).
8. All motions and applications shall be governed by the Court's Individual Rules and Practices, including the requirement of a pre-motion conference before a motion for summary judgment is filed. Pursuant to the authority of Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(c)(2), any motion for summary judgment will be deemed untimely unless a request for a pre-motion conference relating thereto is made in writing within fourteen (14) days of the date in paragraph 5, *i.e.*, the close of fact discovery.
9. All counsel must meet face-to-face for at least one hour to discuss settlement within fourteen (14) days following the close of fact discovery.
10. a. Counsel for the parties have discussed an informal exchange of information in aid of early settlement of this case and have agreed upon the following:
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- b. Counsel for the parties have discussed the use of the following alternate dispute resolution mechanisms for use in this case: (i) a settlement conference before a Magistrate Judge; (ii) participation in the District's Mediation Program; and/or (iii) retention of a privately-retained mediator. Counsel for the parties propose the following alternate dispute resolution mechanism for this case:
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- c. Counsel for the parties recommend that the alternate dispute resolution mechanism designated in paragraph 10(b), be employed at the following point in the case (*e.g.*, within the next sixty days; after the deposition of plaintiff is completed (specify date); after the close of fact discovery):
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- d. The use of any alternative dispute resolution mechanism does not stay or modify any date in this Order.
- 11. The Final Pretrial Order date is thirty (30) days following the close of fact and expert discovery (whichever is later). By the Final Pretrial Order date, the parties shall submit a Joint Pretrial Order prepared in accordance with the undersigned's Individual Rules and Practices and Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(a)(3). Any motions *in limine* shall be filed after the close of discovery on or before the Final Pretrial Order date. If this action is to be tried before a jury, proposed *voir dire*, jury instructions and verdict form shall also be filed on or before the Final Pretrial Order date. Counsel are required to meet and confer on a joint submission of proposed jury instructions and verdict form, noting any points of disagreement in the joint submission. Jury instructions may not be submitted after the Final Pretrial Order date, unless they meet the standard of Fed. R. Civ. P. 51(a)(2)(A). If this action is to be tried to the Court, proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law should be submitted on or before the Final Pretrial Order date.
- 12. Counsel for the parties have conferred and their present best estimate of the length of trial is _____.
- 13. [Other items, including those in Rule 26(f)(3).]

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE COURT:

The Plan has been reviewed by the Court and, except as modified, is adopted as the Scheduling Order of this Court in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b).

- 14. [Other]
- 15. The next Case Management Conference is scheduled for _____ at _____

Unless otherwise indicated, the Case Management Conference will be held **telephonically**. The parties should call into the Court's dedicated conference line at **(888) 363-4749, and enter Access Code 468-4906, followed by the pound (#) key**. Counsel are directed to review the Court's Emergency Individual Rules and Practices in Light of COVID-19, found at <https://nysd.uscourts.gov/hon-paul-engelmayer>, for the Court's procedures for telephonic conferences and for instructions for communicating with chambers.

All conferences with the Court are scheduled for a specific time; there is no other matter scheduled for that time, and counsel are directed to appear promptly. All pretrial conferences must be attended by the attorney who will serve as principal trial counsel.

Please email to EngelmayerNYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov, no later than twenty-four hours before the conference, the names of any counsel who wish to enter an appearance at the conference, and the number from which each counsel will be calling.

This ORDER may not be modified or the dates herein extended, except by further Order of this Court for good cause shown. Any application to modify or extend the dates herein (except as noted in paragraph 6) shall be made in a written application in accordance with paragraph 1.E of the Court's Individual Rules and Practices and shall be made no less than two (2) business days prior to the expiration of the date sought to be extended.



Paul A. Engelmayer
United States District Judge

Dated: New York, New York
 November 7, 2023